210151US00 10/717297 Art Unit: 1714

2

## AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFCATION

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 28, ending on page 3, line 7, with the paragraph below:

Certain embodiments of the present invention are directed to oxygen scavenging compositions that comprise (1) at least one metal catalyzed oxidizable organic compound and (2) at least one transition metal carboxylate, wherein the transition metal carboxylate comprises at least one carboxylate group and wherein each carboxylate group comprises between 20 and 30 carbon atoms, inclusive. In certain embodiments the compositions can comprise a mixture of transition metal carboxylates. Examples of such carboxylates are transition metal behenates (alternatively called decorposates docosanates) and transition metal arachidates (alternatively called eicosanates). The transition metal of the transition metal carboxylate can be manganese, copper, or cobalt, among others. Thus, certain oxygen scavenging compositions of the present invention can comprise cobalt behenate or cobalt arachidate.